Revamping of catering service in trains

2005. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn plans to revamp its catering services in trains in a big way, to provide variety of its menu, including fast food items; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to revamp the Catering Services, certain concrete steps have been taken which include, revision of menu and tariff, training to catering, staff, formation of committees comprising of railway officials/private licences to suggest measures for improvement and drafting of manual on catering and hospitality to provide comprehensive guidelines on all aspects to bring standardisation in quality of services.

Incentives for freight traffic

2006. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have offered incentives to atract more freight traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what has been the response to these incentives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Railways offer the following incentives to attract more freight traffic:—

(i) Grant of reduced Station to Station rates on commercial considerations subject to fulfilment of the stipulated conditions except for certain specified commodities.

(ii) Grant of freight concession upto 10% on non-programmed imported coal traffic originating on Southern and Western Railways subejct to fulfilment of stipulated condition.

(iii) Grant of 10% discount on incremental traffic offered under the Volume Discount Scheme for the second half of the year 1998-99 as compared to first six months of the financial year in respect of Cement, Iron and Steel, Iron Ore, Sponge Iron and Clinker subject to fulfilment of the stipulated conditions.

(iv) Grant of concession of 10% in freight rates on loading of Cement and Chemical Manures Division 'A', 'B' & 'C ' when loaded in block rakes of open wagons provided such wagons are covered by tarpaulins supplied by the consignors at their own cost.

(v) Grant of concession upto 10% in freight rate on loading of commodities in block rakes of open wagons when booked in the direction of flow of empties subject to fulfilment of laid down conditions.

(c) The response of the industry to these incentives has been generally encouraging.

Railway Projects in N.E.

2007. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the project outlays, year-wise